

Torrance, California
April 13, 1937

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, April 13, 1937 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being
Councilmen: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson.
Absent: Councilmen: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of March 23, 1937, the adjourned meetings of March 25, March 26, March 29, and March 30, 1937, and the special meeting of April 5, 1937 be approved as written. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication from the Texas Oil Company submitting \$38.76 in full payment of all amounts due the City of Torrance under Ordinances 717, 884, 1129 and 1377, for the period January 1, 1936 to December 31, 1936.

Communication from the Los Angeles County League of Municipalities regarding meeting to be held April 15th at Huntington Park. It was indicated that eight would attend from Torrance.

Letter from the Southern California Edison Company stating that they had complied with the City's request to install a sodium vapor lamp on Cedar Avenue at the Santa Fe Railway crossing north of Torrance Boulevard.

Communication and resolution from the Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce concerning transportation service of the Pacific Electric Railway Company, and requesting a similar resolution by the City Council of Torrance.

Councilman Deininger moved that this matter be referred to the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for recommendation. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Letter from the Loyal Order of Moose, expressing appreciation for cooperation in securing Federal Music Project.

Communication from A. Keagy, property owner, calling attention to flooded district in Meadow Park Tract, and requesting that culverts be placed to drain off the water.

City Engineer Leonard stated that this was a County project, over which the City has no control.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the Engineer be authorized to write an explanation of this situation to Mr. Keagy. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Request from the Torrance Short Baseball League for an appropriation of \$350.00 for the season. A letter of appreciation for the 1936 season was inclosed, which had been addressed to the League by the P.T.A.

Councilman McGuire moved that this matter be referred to the Finance Committee. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Communication from the Pacific Electric Railway Company, inclosing two copies of application for power line franchise on Cedar Avenue, to be used jointly with the Southern California Edison Company.

Engineer Leonard stated that the County Board of Supervisors and the City Council of the City of Hawthorne had acted favorably.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1097

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE DISPENSING WITH ADVERTISING FOR SALE
POWER LINE FRANCHISE TO PACIFIC ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1097 be adopted. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Attorney Rippy presented for first reading and read in full:

ORDINANCE NO. 292

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GRANTING TO PACIFIC ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, THE RIGHT TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE A POWER LINE FOR THE TRANSMISSION OF ELECTRICITY ON PRAIRIE AVENUE IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Councilman McGuire moved that Ordinance No. 292 be adopted for first reading. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1098

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GRANTING PACIFIC ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY PERMIT TO COMMENCE CONSTRUCTION OF POWER LINE PENDING FRANCHISE

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1098 be adopted. Councilman Deininger seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented a report submitted by Mr. F. R. Leonard for Municipal Water District Number One.

Engineer Leonard stated that the report was made as a matter of record, in compliance with the Council's previous request.

The report was referred to the Council, and especially to the Chairman of the Water Committee for further study.

Clerk Bartlett presented a petition signed by 24 people, which petition was dated March 22, 1937, requesting the removal of the hog ranch at Spencer and Madrona Streets and that further permits not be granted in that district.

The Clerk also read two communications from Mr. C. J. Lyons, one requesting the Council to aid in the solution of the problem of maintaining the hog ranch, stating that it was not a nuisance and that an inspector from the Health Department had influenced the people in signing the petition, and the other requesting permission to carry garbage to the hog ranch of Frogge and Willis.

The petition and communications were referred to the City Attorney.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the permit to haul garbage to the Frogge and Willis ranch be granted, also the hog ranch license, both to be effective until July 1, 1937. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Leonard stated that he had contacted the State Department in regard to the expense in connection with the Damuth condemnation suit, and that he had been informed that this expense can be included in the 1/4¢ money allocated to the City of Torrance from gasoline funds.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1099

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF JUDGMENT IN THE MATTER OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, PLAINTIFF, VS. FRED G. DAMUTH, ET AL, DEFENDANTS, CASE #392571, SUPERIOR COURT, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Councilman Deininger moved that Resolution No. 1099 be adopted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Attorney Rippy stated that the money in connection with the Damuth case had been paid into Court.

Councilman Deininger reported that the Manager of the Water Department had received offers for the Chevrolet, for the pump shed on Madrid Avenue, and for some water meters.

Councilman Deininger moved that these offers be accepted. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Deininger reported that the chlorinator in the water tank needs overhauling and that the expense would be around \$100.00.

Councilman Deininger moved that not to exceed \$100.00 be appropriated for overhauling the chlorinator. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Deininger reported that several meter boxes were not in good repair when the water system was taken over. He stated that the estimated cost of material would be \$308.54, and that the labor would cost about \$344.40.

Councilman Deininger moved that the expenditure for meter box material be approved. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Deininger moved that the expenditure for construction and installation of meter boxes be approved. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Deininger presented a salvage report from the Water Department, covering the period from March 1, 1937 to April 1, 1937, as a matter of record.

Councilman Hitchcock presented several requests for tree removals. Councilman Deininger also told of a tree at 1828 Arlington Avenue which a property owner wanted removed and wished to replace with a Chinese elm.

Councilman Hitchcock asked that the request covering the removal of a palm tree at 1027 Cota Avenue be complied with at once, as the property owner wishes to move a house onto the lot, and has promised to replace the tree after the house is placed.

Councilman Deininger moved that the tree at 1027 Cota Avenue be removed at once. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

It was decided that the Council would meet informally at 4 P.M. on April 14 to investigate the other trees.

Councilman Hitchcock reported that he and Engineer Leonard had contacted property owners in Walteria and also the Automobile Club of Southern California in connection with the question of placing a street sign and light at Newton Street and 101 Highway. He stated that the Automobile Club representative had recommended a reflectorized sign, the cost of which would be \$18.65 plus sales tax (the cost to include installation and five-years' upkeep). He also reported that Mr. Leonard is endeavoring to get the State Highway to pay for this sign, but requested that the City appropriate the correct amount, in the event that the State Highway does not make the payment.

Councilman Powell moved that \$18.65 plus sales tax be appropriated for a reflectorized sign at Newton Street and 101 Highway. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

The need of an additional traffic sign at Torrance Boulevard and Border Avenue was brought up by Councilman Hitchcock. Chief Calder stated that several accidents had happened at that corner and said that it had been suggested that a boulevard stop sign be placed there.

After some discussion, Councilman Hitchcock moved that a reflectorized "Slow" sign be placed on Torrance Boulevard east of Border Avenue. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson.

Attorney Rippy presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1100

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE INDICATING INTENTION TO ENTER
INTO CONTRACT WITH LOS ANGELES COUNTY FOR
LIBRARY SERVICES

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1100 be adopted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Deininger moved that a letter of appreciation be addressed to Mr. F. R. Leonard for his services in managing the Water Department. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman McGuire moved that the Mayor be authorized to contact the Los Angeles School Board requesting that the playgrounds of the schools be opened to the public for the summer and that the necessary equipment and instructors be placed on the playgrounds for the use of the public. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A lady in the audience asked if something could be done about the problem of not having any water on Arlington Avenue in North Torrance.

Engineer Leonard reported that he had contacted the Moneta Water Company and had been informed that they were not in a position to put in the pipe lines themselves, but that they would be glad to furnish water if the City of Torrance could arrange to take care of laying the pipe lines. He stated that there would be a certain block of stock put aside for the territory and that it would be necessary to bond the district. He also said that he had received an estimate from Mr. Fred W. Weber of approximately \$5585.00 for laying cast iron pipe, part being a six-inch line and part a four-inch line.

Mr. Leonard stated that connection might be made with the Gardena Water Company for about \$3063.00, but that this was only a four-inch line and would not take care of fire protection.

After some discussion regarding the possibility of forming an assessment district or other means of securing finances for a water system for North Torrance, the matter was referred, upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman McGuire, to the City Attorney, the Water Manager, the Mayor and the City Engineer, who were to meet with a committee of three (or more) residents of North Torrance and endeavor to work out a solution to the problem.

A gentleman living at Arlington and 166th Street asked that a street sign be placed on Arlington Avenue.

Referred to the Street Department.

Mr. Alden Smith presented an idea for an industrial exposition to be held September 16, 17 and 18, 1937, which he desires to have sponsored by the City Council, the Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants group.

This matter was referred to the Council for further study and consideration.

A gentleman stated that some of the people who had signed the petition protesting against the Frogge and Willis hog ranch wished to withdraw their names, and he presented a counter-petition bearing 30 names, including some of those on the first petition.

Clerk Bartlett read the petition which stated that the residents had not been annoyed by the hog ranch and that they did not object to its location.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that this petition be filed. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Ed Day spoke of the hopes of the Torrance Short Baseball League to have an even better season this year than last, and asked if the Council could give any assurance of granting the request for an appropriation.

The Mayor stated that the matter would have to be taken up by the Finance Committee, who would advise him of their decision.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Deininger seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Deininger, Hitchcock, McGuire, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 9:28 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Powell, the meeting adjourned.

A. W. Bartlett
City Clerk of the City of Torrance.

Approved:

W. H. Tolson
Mayor of the City of Torrance.